

Obituary **Gerrit P. VanEck**

Gerrit P. VanEck, 78, of Grand Haven passed away unexpectedly on September 26, 2017, at Mercy Hospital.

He was born March 18, 1939, to Gerrit and Lena (Klop) VanEck. He married Mary DeVries in 1964.

Gerrit was in the Army National Guard for nine years, worked in the Grand Haven Sunoco service station and Austgen's Imports in Spring Lake, and was a sheet metal journeyman in Bastian Blessing for 21 years.

Gerrit enjoyed working on cars, riding his motorcycle, taking care of his three grandchildren and riding his mopeds. He especially enjoyed talking to people, was

an encouragement to everyone, always cheerful and in good spirits, and if someone needed help he was always willing to lend a hand.

He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Mary; daughter Gerri (David) Pinder, and son David VanEck, both of Grand Haven; three grandchildren: Caitlyn (Corey) Simpson, Zachary (Ashley Zysk) Pinder and Marissa Pinder; and two great-granddaughters, Kallie Jo and Lilah Rae, all of Grand Haven. He was preceded in death by his parents, Gerrit and Lena VanEck; and brother, Adrian VanEck.

In accordance with Gerrit's wishes, there will be no visitation or services, and cremation has taken place.

(from the Grand Haven Tribune)